

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00113 280002Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 OPIC-06

XMB-04 /046 W

-----066623 281854Z /64

R 271315Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6645

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS MAPUTO 0113

CASABLANCA FOR FISHERIES ATTACHE

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ETIN, MZ

SUBJECT: SHRIMP BOATS: VISIT OF CITIBANK CHAIRMAN

REF: (A) MAPUTO 1166 (B) STATE 273700

1. THE MOZAMBIQUE NATIONAL FISHERIES DIRECTORATE (DNP) IS NO
FARTHER ALONG THAN THEY WERE LAST NOVEMBER TOWARD THE PLANNED PURCHASE

OF 40-50 SHRIMP BOATS. THEY REMAIN INTERESTED IN AJOINT VENTURE
WITH A AMERICAN FIRM TO BUT PROTOTYPE CUSTOM-DESIGNED BOATS IN
THE US AND EVENTUALLY ASSEMBLE THE BOATS IN MOZAMBIQUE. HOWEVER,
DNP HAS NOT RULED OUT BUYING ALL THE BOATS OVERSEAS.

2. CITIBANK SOUTHERN AFRICIA CHAIRMAN, GORDON PHELPS DISCUSSED THE
PROJECT WITH DNP. HE SAID THAT CITIBANK WOULD CONSIDER FINANCING
THE VENTURE ONCE CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET:

A. PROJECTED RECEIPTS FROM SHRIMP EXPORTS COVER ANNUAL PAYMENTS:

B. THE MOZAMBIQUE EXPORT ECONOMY IN GENERAL IS STRONG ENOUGH
TO MAKE UP POSSIBLE DECLINE IN CATCH AND

C. THE DNP BUYS AND TESTS A PROTOTYPE BOAT TO ASSURE THE
VIABILITY OF KEEPING THE BY CATCH ALONG WITH SHRIMP ON THE

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BOATS.

3. PHELPS ESTIMATED THAT IT WOULD BE AT LEAST A YEAR BEFORE DNP
COULD BE READY TO PRESENT A PROPOSAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANKING
COMMUNITY FOR THE \$30 MILLION OR SO NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT
DNP BELIEVES THE GPRM CAN FINANCE THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ONE
PROTOTYPE BOAT FOR A 6 MONTH TEST.

4. EMBASSY OFFERED TO ASK DOC NATIONAL MARINE AND FISHERIES SERVICE IF ANY STUDIES HAD BEEN DONE OF CATCHING AND PRESERVING BOTH SHRIMP AND FISH ON THE SAME BOATS AND WHETHER ANY OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE SUCH BOATS. DNP SAID THEY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION.

5. DURING 36 HOUR VISIT, PHELPS HAD ONE HOUR MEETING WITH ALBERTO CASSIMO'S FIRST MAJOR BANKING POSITION, HE IMPRESSED PHELPS AS HAVING A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF CENTRAL BANK FUNCTIONS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: NMFS PLEASE CHECK ON DATA DESCRIBED IN PARA 4. DEPARTMENT MAY WANT TO SHARE INFORMATION WITH ATLANTIC MARINE. JACKSONVILLE, FL AND QUALITY MARINE, THEODORE ALABAMA.
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Message Attributes

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